

**U.S. Embassy Dakar, Senegal**  
**Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens – Political Rallies**

July 22, 2011

This emergency message is being issued by the U.S. Embassy in Dakar, Senegal for U.S. citizens in Senegal.

**Due to the potential for violence this Saturday, July 23, the U.S. Embassy in Dakar has placed the following restrictions on travel of all official Embassy personnel and their family members from 8:01a.m. Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> until 12:01a.m. Sunday, July 24:**

- **No travel on the Voie de Deggement Nord (VDN)**

**Additionally, official personnel and family members have been advised to avoid travel in the downtown plateau area in Dakar and on National Highway 1 (highway between Dakar and Rufisque).**

Both pro and opposition political parties have planned political rallies in and around Dakar. The pro-government rally is scheduled to begin on Saturday, July 23, at 3 p.m. on the Voie de Deggement Nord (VDN) at the Parti Democratique Senegalais (PDS) Headquarters. The opposition has also scheduled a rally in the morning at the Place de l'Obelisque (previously scheduled for the Place de l'Independence).

The U.S. Embassy Dakar advises U.S. citizens to avoid travel on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> in these specific areas.

While most demonstrations in Senegal are non-violent, the recent demonstrations of June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> quickly turned violent with little advanced warning. U.S. citizens should avoid political gatherings and street demonstrations in Senegal. U.S. citizens are encouraged to stay current with media coverage of local events, avoid demonstrations, and practice good situational awareness at all times. U.S. citizens should modify their travel plans to account for the possibility of protests and/or ensuing delays in affected areas.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy Dakar website (<http://dakar.usembassy.gov/>). You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information ([http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1013.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1013.html)). If you don't have internet access, we have a call center for updates--1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or from other countries on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to Senegal or Guinea-Bissau, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP - <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar is located on at Avenue Jean XXIII, Dakar; the mailing address is B.P. 49, Dakar, Senegal. If you have questions or concerns about safety or related issues, you are encouraged to contact the consular section at the Embassy by sending an email message to [consulardakar@state.gov](mailto:consulardakar@state.gov). The Embassy telephone number is (221) 33 829-2100.

For after-hours emergencies, U.S. citizens should call (221) 33-829-2109 and ask to speak with the duty officer.